

and made of elastic material whose elasticity forces the ring into its form surrounding the lower leg.

A marked-up version is shown as Exhibit B.

Please add the Abstract, attached hereto on a separate sheet.

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, a cross-reference to related applications has been inserted in page 1. The incorrect reference to the drawing FIGS. in the specification has been corrected. The claims have been amended so that the multiple dependency of certain of the dependent claims have been removed to avoid the surcharge associated therewith, and an Abstract is being provided. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosure: Abstract

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Lisa L. Vulpis
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EXHIBIT A

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES
MADE TO SPECIFICATION

Page 6, paragraph 2, please amend as follows:

--FIGS. [6] 5 and [7] 6 are different views of an alternative embodiment of the cuff as defined by the invention.--

Page 7, last paragraph, please amend as follows:

--An orthotic cuff with a basically different structure is shown in FIGS. [6] 5 and [7] 6, where the functional component is a ring 7 that is made of elastic material and is open on one side. The elasticity of said material forces the cuff into its shape surrounding the lower leg. Said ring 7 either consists of highly elastic plastic, e.g. polycarbonate, or a highly elastic metal such as, for example stainless steel. The cuff so designed is placed around the lower leg like a clasp and then kept in position by the elastic rebound forces of the ring 7. The present embodiment of the cuff does not require any closing elements.--

EXHIBIT B

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES
MADE TO CLAIMS 3 AND 6

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. (Amended) The orthosis cuff according to [claims 1 and 2] claim 1, characterized in that the cuff (1) is produced from stiff leather or plastic and comprises a stiff functional component (2) surrounding the lower leg on all sides, as well as closing elements (6) overlapping each other and being located on the ends of the functional component (2).

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

6. (Amended) The orthosis cuff according to [claims 1 and 2] claim 1, characterized in that the cuff (1) is a ring (7) open on one side and made of elastic material whose elasticity forces the ring into its form surrounding the lower leg.